

A VISIT TO THE ASYLUMS.

WHIMS, DELUSIONS, AND WILD TALK OF THE LUNATICS.

The Senate Committee made a tour of Ward's and Blackwell's Islands yesterday. They were accompanied by Townsend Cox, Thomas S. Brewster, Jacob Hosa, Commissioners of Charities and Correction, and others. As the party were taken through the Ward's Island Asylum by Superintendent Macdonald they were sometimes pleased with and at other times cowed by patients. Some patients clutched furiously and uttered oaths. Some talked volubly of the wrongs and sufferings they had endured. Some, with vehement gesture and violent language, denounced the doctors and Commissioners as the vilest tyrants. Some sat quietly and stolidly, looking at the visitors as at some strange object.

In one ward was Albert Jung, a German patient. He gave the entire party a round scolding. He said: "You don't know enough to take off your hats when you come to an institution. How do you expect to get good attendants here for \$18 a month? I see you are smoking here. Well, they punish us when we smoke here. Americans are despotists." Subsequently, in the yard, Jung launched forth violent and profane denunciation on Commissioners, doctors, attendants, and all creation. In the same ward was the claimant to the Stewart estate; he was quiet. There also was P. La Rubens, who is an excellent mathematician, and is said to have contributed articles to one of the encyclopedias. Among the patients with harmless delusions was one named Gilt who believed he was the son of the playboy of Hamelin. He recited Hamel's soliloquy and the Seven Ages with an approach to correctness, but some of his lines were sadly original. He said: "I am a chemist, a man of science, a chemist, a Fra Diavolo. I've been living 80,000 years, and expect to live 40,000,000 years longer."

The scene of the words for violent causes there was a terrible scene. The appearance of the visitors was the signal for a babel of outcries, pitiful appeals for release, curses, and vigorous attempts to reach the visitors. One mad Balkan was permitted to gape among the visitors and delivered an impassioned speech, claiming that he was "the Lord of the Earth." As the party left, the Commissioners were asked about the waist, and stubbornly refused to let him go unless he was released. It took two attendants to get him away. Other patients were so excited that they would not let go of their attendants and placed in confinement. Most of the patients quickly drew visitors aside and told pitiful tales of outrages that they said the attendants had committed. Some of them should be sent to effect their release. A very common expression among the patients was: "There is nothing the matter with me. I am as strong as you are. I am kept here unjustly. The world is full of the utmost calmness and soberity by many."

In the office Dr. Macdonald exhibited a number of photographs that had been taken from the patients. Some of them were quite intelligent, however, greeted the Commissioners as old friends. The patients were generally seated around the large halls, and kept seated by the attendants. Some of the patients who got up from their seats, and became violent, she was immediately seized and compelled to sit down. Some were working at embroidery, some at knitting, some at carding, and some at spinning. One patient quickly slipped into the hands of Commissioners, and some of the nurses who had followed the visitor. One who was quiet was told that she was trying to keep from laughing. She replied with a much more pleasant smile, "Anybody could show me how to keep a pleasant face." Another patient was always ready to make crooked play and reviving subjects to expulsive and drunkenness and disobedience purchased by suspicion.

One of the rules was changed so as to place such cuts in the position of honorary member of the League. The limit of championship clubs for 1881 was made eight, and the new points of the constitution was the rule placing club managers upon a similar footing of responsibility with regard to the conduct of their members or of their contracts. It is now also made imperative on the League clubs to obey the rules against Sunday playing, beer-selling, open betting, and the like. The new points of the constitution of membership. One failing to pay to visiting clubs their due share of receipts is now amenable to expulsion from the League. Any club which was received on the phone of one of the officers of League clubs, now being subject to expulsion like persons if they fail to discharge their duties properly, in grace of payment for violation of League rules. All the points will be continued and the new points will be continued.

The annual convention of the American College Association was held at Springfield, Mass., on the 4th inst., and representatives of Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Amherst, Brown, and Dartmouth, and the Princeton team of 1880 were declared champions of the association for the past season.

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BLAKE BOOKS.—A good job ringer and forwarder wanted.

BAKER WANTED.—Good blank book forwarder wanted.

BOOTH'S.—Good blank book forwarder wanted.

BOSTON.—Good blank book forwarder wanted.